

occur upon publication of this notification. The Forest Service will be seeking information, comments and assistance from Federal, State and local agencies and other individuals or organizations that may be interested in or affected by the proposed action. The proposed project will be presented at an Open House in the local area, where representatives from the WMNF and the State of New Hampshire will be available to discuss the project and provide additional information. In addition, interested parties are encouraged to visit with Forest Service officials at any time during the analysis and prior to the decision.

Comments from the public and other agencies will be used in preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). Please note that comments will be regarded as public information. The scoping process will be used to:

1. Identify potential issues.
2. Identify major issues to be analyzed in depth.
3. Eliminate minor issues or those which have been covered by a relevant previous environmental analysis, such as the Forest Plan EIS for the WMNF.
4. Identify alternatives to the proposed action.
5. Identify potential environmental effects of the proposed action and its alternatives, including direct, indirect and cumulative effects.
6. Determine potential cooperating agencies and task assignments.

No significant issues associated with the proposed land exchange or the Special Use Permit for the Tucker Brook Trail have been identified to date. Issues commonly associated with land exchanges of public lands are usually specific to the lands involved but often include methods of determining appropriate values of the parcels involved and potential impacts to threatened, endangered or sensitive species.

In preparing the DEIS, the Forest Service will consider a range of alternatives to meet the objectives of this proposal. One of these will be the "no action" alternative, in which none of the proposed activities would be implemented. Additional alternatives may involve issuance of a Special Use Permit instead of a land exchange and/or evaluation of parcels of land other than that already identified that might better meet the management objectives for the WMNF.

The DEIS will analyze the direct, indirect and cumulative environmental effects of the alternatives. Past present and foreseeable future activities on private, State and National Forest System lands will be considered. The

DEIS will also discuss site-specific mitigation measures, if necessary, that may be required to implement the project and their anticipated effectiveness.

It is expected at this time that the DEIS will be filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and made available for public review in December 1999. At that time, the EPA will publish a Notice of Availability of the DEIS in the **Federal Register**. The comment period on the DEIS will be 45 days from the date the EPA's notice of availability appears in the **Federal Register**. It is very important that those interested in management of the WMNF and Cannon Mountain participate during this review and comment period. To be most helpful, comments on the DEIS should be as specific as possible. The Final EIS (FEIS) is expected to be released in March of 2000.

The Forest Service believes, at this early stage, that it is important to give reviewers notice of several court rulings related to public participation in the environmental review process. First, reviewers of draft environmental impact statements must structure their participation in the environmental review of the proposal so that it is meaningful and alerts an agency to the reviewer's position and contentions. *Vermont Yankee Nuclear Power Corp. v. Natural Resources Defense Council*, 435 US 519, 558 (1978). Also, environmental objections that could be raised at the draft environmental impact stage but that are not raised until after completion of the final environmental impact statement may be waived or dismissed by the courts. *City of Angoon v. Hodel*, 803 F.2d 1016, 1022 (9th Cir. 1986) and *Wisconsin Heritages, Inc. v. Harris*, 490 F. Supp. 1334, 1338 (E.D. Wis. 1980). Because of these court rulings, it is very important that those interested in this proposed action participate by the close of the scoping and 45-day DEIS comment periods so that substantive comments and objections are made available to the Forest Service at a time when it can meaningfully consider them and respond to them in developing issues and alternatives.

To assist the Forest Service in identifying and considering issues on the proposed action, comments should be as specific as possible. Reviewers may wish to refer to the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act at 40 CFR 1503.3 in addressing these points.

Dated: April 13, 1999.

Donna Hepp,

Forest Supervisor.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration

Designation for the Central Illinois (IL) Area

AGENCY: Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA).

ACTION: Notice; correction.

SUMMARY: The Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration published a document in the **Federal Register** of April 1, 1999, announcing designation of Central Illinois Grain Inspection, Inc. (Central Illinois), to provide official services under the United States Grain Standards Act. The document contained an incorrect date.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Janet M. Hart, 202-720-8525.

Correction

In the **Federal Register** of April 1, 1999, in FR Doc. 99-7995, on page 15723, in the third column, correct the fifth paragraph to read:

Effective June 1, 1999, and ending March 31, 2002, Central Illinois is designated to provide official services in the Central Illinois geographic area specified in the October 1, 1998, **Federal Register**.

Authority: Pub. L. 94-582, 90 Stat. 2867, as amended (7 U.S.C. 71 *et seq.*).

Dated: April 13, 1999.

Neil E. Porter,

Director, Compliance Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Nutrient Management Technical Assistance Activities Policy; Revision

AGENCY: Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), USDA

ACTION: Revision of the NRCS policy for nutrient management technical assistance activities. This revised policy impacts the NRCS national conservation practice standards for Nutrient Management (Code 590) and Waste Utilization (Code 633), which have been revised and reissued to reflect the new policy.